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Nineteenth Biennial Report

of the

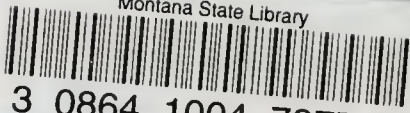
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

of the

Historical Society *of* Montana

1927 - 1928

Montana State Library



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Nineteenth Biennial Report

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PRESIDENTS AND LIBRARIANS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTANA

From date of organization March 25, 1865.

PRESIDENTS.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Wilbur F. Sanders | 1865—1890 |
| Granville Stuart | 1890—1895 |
| Cornelius Hedges | 1895—1897 |
| William B. Hundley | 1897—1903 |
| Massena Bullard | 1903—1909 |
| Frank H. Woody | 1909—1915 |
| Charles B. Power | 1915—1922 |
| J. H. T. Ryman | 1922—1926 |
| James T. Stanford | 1926—Aug. 10, 1926 |
| Josephine L. Hepner | 1927— |

LIBRARIANS

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Granville Stuart | 1865—1875 |
| Charles Rumley | 1875—1885 |
| William F. Wheeler | 1885—1895 |
| Wilbur E. Sanders | 1895—1897 |
| Laura E. Howie | 1898—1907 |
| William S. Bell | 1907—1909 |
| W. Y. Pemberton | 1909—1922 |
| James U. Sanders | 1922—1923 |
| David Hilger | 1923— |

OFFICERS
OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTANA
1928.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Josephine I. Hepner, President | Helena, Montana |
| Wyllys A. Hedges, Vice-President..... | Lewistown, Montana |
| William M. Bole | Great Falls, Montana |
| *Patrick Carney | Waterloo, Montana |
| David Hilger | Helena, Montana |

*Mr. Patrick Carney died June 18, 1928.

Helena, Montana,
Dec. 1, 1928.

Hon. John E. Erickson,
Governor of Montana,
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

We have the honor to submit herewith the nineteenth biennial report of the Historical Society of Montana and, also, submit the report of the librarian of even date, covering the two year period from December 1, 1926, to December 1, 1928.

This department regrets to report that during this period we have lost one of our distinguished members of the Board of Trustees, the Hon. Patrick Carney, who died at his home in Waterloo, Montana, on June 18, 1928. Mr. Carney was a well known and distinguished pioneer of the territory and state and an active and consistent supporter of the affairs of this board. His loss is regretted by all and leaves a vacancy to be filled by your appointment of his successor.

The legislative assembly of 1927 increased our annual appropriation which was to be applied as follows, per year from July 1, 1927, to July 1, 1929:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Salary of librarian | \$2400.00 |
| Salary of Assistant Librarian | 1800.00 |
| Capital, repairs and replacements | 275.00 |
| Other operating expenses | 625.00 |
| Binding newspapers and periodicals | 1225.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | \$6325.00 |

This was an increase of over \$1000 for the two previous years but much below the sums appropriated for many years prior to that period. The increase enabled us to bind the accumulated newspapers and periodicals but no appropriation was made for the publication of the annual volume authorized by statute.

We, again, call your attention to the overcrowded condition of our library quarters which appears to have reached the limit as it requires the storing of a vast amount of material in the basements which are not accessible to the public.

We need a historical library building and as a wise provision was made by congress in the State Enabling Act in setting aside public lands for capital building purposes, we strongly urge the legislative body convening in January, 1929, to pass an act authorizing the State Board of Examiners to float a bond issue against said land grant for \$250,000, ten per cent of which is to be used for the installing and purchase of additional equipment and moving.

The bond issue will be against the available land unsold in this grant. The state will not be liable for the payment of either principal or interest, hence, it will not be a further tax burden upon the people of the state. The lands were segregated by Congress for just this purpose and can be used for no other.

Nearly all the states have separate and, in many instances, elaborate historical library buildings and it is high time for Montana to construct

such a building to house the valuable collection in the present overcrowded library quarters.

This matter has been strongly endorsed by resolutions recently passed at the annual conventions of the American Legion, the Montana Pioneers, The Sons and Daughters of the Montana Pioneers and the State Press Association. It has the support of a large majority of the citizens; men and women of Montana.

We hope for prompt and favorable action by the legislature convening in January next.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPHINE I. HEPNER,

WYLLYS A. HEDGES,

WILLIAM M. BOLE,

DAVID HILGER,

Trustees.

Report of the Librarian

OF THE

Historical Society of Montana

Helena, Montana,
Dec. 1, 1928.

Board of Trustees of the
Historical Society of Montana.
Mrs. Josephine I. Hepner, President,
Wyllys A. Hedges, Vice-President,
William M. Bole,
David Hilger, Secretary.

Members of the Board:

I herewith present the nineteenth biennial report of the Historical Society of Montana for the years 1927-1928.

My reports for the two former biennial periods were devoted largely to the very insufficient appropriations for this department as compared with those of former years. I succeeded in having the legislature of 1927 increase this to a total of \$6325.00. This increase provided for the binding of the accumulated newspapers and periodicals but not for the important item of a sum for the publication of the annual volume.

To compensate for this loss or delay I took up the matter of furnishing the press of Montana with a series of letters or articles dealing with the early history of Montana. A notable part of this work was a series of twelve articles published by the Great Falls Tribune and the Montana Newspaper Association which gained wide publicity and occasioned much favorable comment among the readers of these papers. These with other articles of a like nature will be published in book form without any cost to our Society.

I find increasing interest in the early history of Montana everywhere in the state. During the past two years I have delivered a number of addresses at dedication exercises and local pioneer meetings at Big Timber, the scene of Chief Joseph's surrender near Chinook, Giant Springs, Great Falls and the recent dedication of a monument in Alder Gulch, near Virginia City.

My duties required me to attend the annual meetings of the Society of Montana Pioneers as well as the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers which were held at Missoula in 1928 and in Butte this summer. At all these meetings I took special pains to give all publicity possible to the urgent need of a historical library building. With the assistance of Mr. Hedges I succeeded in having the matter receive the attention of the Montana Pioneers, the Sons and Daughters of the Pioneers, the American Legion at their annual meeting in Butte and the State Press Association which met in Helena this year. Each of these organizations passed strong resolutions endorsing the movement. Most of the state newspapers have given the project their support in the editorial columns of their papers.

As this expenditure of \$250,000 is paid out of lands unsold in the capitol building land grant which are ample for this purpose it will not be a burden on the property owners of the state for no additional taxes will be levied. The movement has met with universal approval and I am sure the legislature convening in January, 1929, will authorize the State Board of Examiners to create a bond issue against the capitol building land grant.

You are all aware of the urgent necessity of a new and separate building to house the valuable collections of this library nearly all of which have been donated by the pioneers of Montana. The collections date from 1874 as the accumulations to that date were destroyed by the Helena fire of 1874. This reminds us that a fireproof building must be constructed.

I ask for the individual co-operation of the members of this board when the matter comes up this winter before the legislative body.

The ever increasing accumulations coming from individuals, county, state and national governments have reached a point where we are at a loss to find room for such. The basement is filled to the ceiling and many framed pictures are stacked up like cordwood with no place to exhibit these properly. This is not treating the donors fairly. These conditions require immediate remedy and should be brought to the notice of the public. We will be making history in the fullest sense of the word by the accomplishment of this project of the erecting of a building for the use and benefit of posterity.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and gratitude for the active co-operation of the President and Vice-President, and the uniform courtesy of all the members of the Board of Trustees. I wish to call attention to the splendid work of my assistant, Mrs. Anne McDonnell, in the administration of this library.

As I am more concerned with the new historical building I have omitted reference to many small and necessary matters, as I do not wish to confuse the main issue with minor details.

You are aware of the fact that all purchases are made through the state purchasing department and approved by the state board of examiners and all books are kept by the state accountant. We cannot make any direct purchases hence all such matters are a permanent record of the state accounting department.

I wish to express my thanks for the courteous treatment and co-operation of the various state departments accorded Mrs. McDonnell and myself, as well as every member of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID HILGER, Librarian.

Books accessioned during 1927-28.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Encyclopedias, etc. | 13 |
| Religion | 5 |
| Sociology, etc. | 18 |
| Science and natural history | 3 |
| Useful arts | 15 |
| Legislation, law, etc. | 50 |
| Drama | 4 |
| Fiction | 6 |
| Poetry | 7 |
| Biography | 23 |
| Genealogy | 3 |
| History and travel | 69 |
| State Historical Societies publications | 344 |
| Periodicals and bound newspapers | 296 |

Total 856

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Newspapers (daily) bound | 103 |
| Newspapers (weekly) bound | 142 |

Total 245

| | |
|--|-----|
| United States Government documents received | 152 |
| Legislative journals, reports, etc., on ex- change account with other states..... | 328 |

Gifts other than books received during 1927-28.

Large framed portraits of

Major John E. Blaine
W. W. McDowell
Marcus Lissner
Moses Morris
John Kinna
Governor E. L. Norris
Mr. Michael Carr
Mrs. Michael Carr
William Bray
Patrick Carney
W. I. Lippincott

An oil painting of J. H. Calderhead.

Stone Indian bowl
Buffalo robe bought from Sitting Bull in 1867
Mortar and pestle once owned by Henry Edgar
Photographs of historic interest
Rare copies of newspapers, legal documents, etc.
Account books, mining records, etc.
Maps

Montana Newspapers Received During 1927-28.

Dailies: ; ;

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anaconda Standard | Havre Promoter |
| Billings Gazette | Helena Independent |
| Bozeman Chronicle | Lewistown Democrat-News |
| Butte Daily Post | Livingston Enterprise |
| Butte Miner (Montana Standard) | Miles City Star |
| Daily Northwest | Missoula Sentinel |
| Daily Interlake | Missoulia |
| Great Falls Leader | Montana Free Press |
| Great Falls Tribune | Montana Record-Herald |

Weeklies:

Alzada Fairplay
 Ashland Pioneer Press
 Baker Sentinel
 Belgrade Journal
 Belt Valley Times
 Big Timber Pioneer
 Billings Times
 Boulder Monitor
 Box Elder Valley Press
 Bozeman Courier
 Bridger Times
 Carbon County News (Red Lodge)
 Cascade Courier
 Chester Reporter
 Chinook Opinion
 Choteau Acantha
 Circle Banner
 Columbus News
 Cutbank Pioneer Press
 Daniels County Leader (Scobey)
 Dawson County Review (Glendive)
 Dillon Examiner
 Dillon Tribune
 Dutton Sentinel
 Ekalaka Eagle
 Eureka Journal
 Exponent (State College, Bozeman)
 Fairfield Times
 Fairview News
 Fallon County Times (Baker)
 Fergus County Argus (Lewistown)
 Flathead Courier (Polson)
 Flathead Monitor (Kalispell)
 Forsyth Independent
 Forsyth Times-Journal
 Froid Tribune

Weeklies—(Continued)

Geraldine Review
Glasgow Courier
Glasgow Times
Grass Range Review
Hardin Tribune-Herald
Harlem News
Harlowton Times
Hill County Democrat (Havre)
Hinsdale Tribune
Hysham Echo
Independent-Observer (Conrad)
Ismay Journal
Jefferson Valley News (Whitehall)
Jordan Times
Jordan Tribune
Judith Basin County Press (Stanford)
Judith Basin Star (Hobson)
Kalispell Times
Kevin Review
Kremlin Chancellor
Laurel Outlook
Liberty County Farmer (Joplin)
Lima Ledger
Madison County Forum (Sheridan)
Madisonian (Virginia City)
Meagher Republican (White Sulphur Springs)
Medicine Lake Wave
Melstone Messenger
Miles City Weekly Star
Mineral County Independent (Superior)
Montana Banker (Great Falls)
Montana Churchman (Helena)
Montana Farmer (Great Falls)
Montana Kaiman (State University, Missoula)
Montana Legionnaire (Helena)
Montana Mason (Great Falls)
Montana Oil Journal (Great Falls)
Montana Trade Journal (Great Falls)
Montana Wild Life (Helena)
Montana Woman (Whitehall)
Moore Independent
Mountaineer (Big Sandy)
Nashua Independent
Normal College Index (Dillon)
Northwest Tribune (Stevensville)
Opheim Observer
Park County News (Livingston)
Philipsburg Mail
Phillips County News (Malta)

Weeklies—(Continued)

Picket-Journal (Red Lodge)
Plainsman (Plains)
Plentywood Herald
Plevna Herald
Poplar Standard
Powder River Examiner (Broadus)
Producer's News (Plentywood)
Ravalli Republican (Hamilton)
Redstone Review
Richey Pilot
Richland County Leader (Lambert)
River Press (Fort Benton)
Rocky Mountain American (Manhattan)
Rocky Mountain Husbandman (Great Falls)
Rocky Mountain Leader (Boulder)
Ronan Pioneer
Roundup Record
Roundup Tribune
Ryegate Reporter
Saco Independent
Shelby Promoter
Sidney Herald
The Silver Post (Deer Lodge)
Stillwater Enterprise (Absarokee)
Teagarden's Recorder (Denton)
Terry Tribune
Three Forks Herald
Three Forks News
Townsend Star
Tribune of Shelby
Troy Tribune
Twin City Advocate (Sweetgrass)
Valley Tribune (Bainville)
Western News (Hamilton)
Western News (Libby)
Whitefish Independent
Whitefish Pilot
Wibaux Pioneer-Gazette
Winifred Times
Winnett Times
Wolf Point Herald
The Woman's Voice (Helena)
The Yellowstone (Worden and Ballentyne)
Yellowstone Journal (Miles City)
Yellowstone Monitor (Glendive)

Historical Publications Received

The Americana
American Catholic Historical Review
The American Historical Review
Annals of Iowa
Colorado Magazine of History
Daughters of the American Revolution Monthly
Illinois Catholic Historical Review
Illinois State Historical Society Magazine
Indiana History Bulletin
Indiana Magazine of History
Iowa Journal of History and Politics
Michigan History Magazine
Minnesota Historical Bulletin
Mississippi Valley Historical Review
Missouri Historical Review
Missouri Historical Society Collections
Nebraska History and Record of Pioneer Days
Nebraska History Magazine
New Jersey Historical Society Proceedings
New York Genealogical and Biographical Record
North Carolina Historical Review
North Dakota Historical Quarterly
Oklahoma Chronicles
Oregon Historical Quarterly
The Palimpsest (Iowa)
Pennsylvania Magazine of History
Southwestern Historical Quarterly (Texas)
Virginia Magazine of History and Biography
Washington Historical Quarterly
William and Mary College Quarterly (Virginia)
Wisconsin Magazine of History
Wyoming Historical Bulletin

